



United Nations Division for Sustainable Development Goals
Department of Economic and Social Affairs

**Meeting of the Communities of Ocean Action
From Commitments to Action: Implementing SDG14**

30–31 May 2019
Incheon, Republic of Korea

Background Note

**Session IV: Building Partnerships
Thursday, 30 May**

Background

To advance the implementation of SDG14, the work of the Communities of Ocean Action (COAs) should build on existing successful partnerships and stimulate innovative and concrete new partnerships. Partnerships provide the capacity to achieve what may not otherwise be achieved. Effective partnerships can draw together different entities with complementary and reinforcing strengths, allowing each partner to focus on its central capacities and assets to produce outcomes with greater impact than can be achieved independently.

So as to leave no one behind, partnerships shall be collaborative and multi-stakeholder in nature, involving all relevant stakeholders, bringing together Governments, the UN system, intergovernmental organizations, international financial institutions, other interested international bodies, non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, academic institutions, the scientific community, the private sector, philanthropic organizations and other actors. Partnerships need to be accountable to their beneficiaries and maintain dialogue with all partners, including communities, throughout the lifetime of the partnership.

Common partnership challenges include sustainable financing, capacity (human and institutional), ensuring that the right people with the right expertise are involved in each partnership, and monitoring partnerships.



Guiding questions to frame the discussion:

- What are the experiences and lessons learned from existing successful partnerships in support of the implementation of SDG14 or other SDGs?
- How do we best ensure that lessons learned by partnerships are documented and widely shared?
- How can we stimulate innovative and concrete new partnerships to advance the implementation of SDG14?
- What gap areas should new partnerships address, both within COAs and across COAs?
- What types of institutional arrangements can facilitate effective partnerships to support the implementation of SDG14?
- How can we better measure the impacts of ocean partnerships?
- How can partnerships best be held accountable to their stakeholders and complete their missions?